98

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 1998

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Nancy Marsden KD4ITX 268-3990
V. PRESIDENT: Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 TREASURER: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. ao146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970, UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

At the January 27 meeting, the club elected Ken Denman, KD4HNW to serve on the Board of Directors to fill the remaining term of Silent Key Butch King, AF4FX. Welcome to the Board, Ken. We look forward to you serving your club in this capacity.

Although our guest speaker was unable to make it to the meeting, we had a chance to enjoy the company of our fellow members.

There has been a change of guard on the Thursday morning VIP net. Abbie, KF4DTC has taken responsibility for running the net effective Thursday, January 29. Warren, AF4EA has done a super job and we all appreciate his good work in maintaining the net for quite some time. Thanks again, Warren.

Have you noticed that we hams seem to put a lot of thought into the various call signs that are issued? For any new ham or one who has changed his or her call, we always enjoy assisting that person in selecting just the right phonetics for the letters in the new call. Two of our members have set a real example for those of us who may be thinking about the vanity call sign change. One of the most unique changes belongs to Bob and Helen Straughn, WR4FSU and WC4FSU. Bob and Helen from Tallahassee, pay honor to Florida State University. For husband and wife to have like calls is wonderful. My congratulations and admiration.

During the month of January, 1998, so many of us have had to bid farewell to a loved one. I, too, feel the pain. My wish and desire is that comfort will be yours in these times of sorrow.

The Miami hamfest is just around the corner. Any one interested in car pooling? Lets talk it up on the nets. 73's

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEB. 1 WA1NXI MICHAEL WHELPLEY
FEB. 2 K4CWG BUD HUGHES
FEB. 2 WB4DXD BUCK TOMLINSON
FEB. 4 W4LAC JASON RUDISILL
FEB. 7 WA4HSY C. J. PETRICK
FEB.12 KE4MWZ MIKE ELLISON
FEB.14 WB4ZUY WYNN ROSTEK
FEB.16 KT4CP BUCK THORNE
FEB.16 KD4ZAH JEWEL SANFORD
FEB.16 KE4YQH KEITH KISER
FEB.17 KF4HTB BECKY LEE
FEB.17 KE4YQL CLARA ABELL
FEB.21 K1SKQ FRANCIS MCDERMOTT
FEB.21 N4WIN WALT FOSTER
FEB.22 K8HRR IRA BICKHAM
FEB.25 K4IXU JOHN PITTMAN
FEB.26 KE4ZPA JOHN RENNINGER
FEB.28 KE4BBL CINDY BORTLE

TARC MOURNS THE PASSING
OF
MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

BUTCH KING, AF4FX
THERESA SHINN, KF4RWK
THE FATHER OF BOB COHEN, AF4HM
THE BROTHER OF BECKY LEE, KF4HTB
THE BROTHER OF BUD HUGHES, K4CWG
A FRIEND OF BUD'S, AS HADLEY, W4DPG

THE LORD'S NEW RADIO MAN

Dedicated to my pal, Patty
By Pat Renninger, KF4LTY

Now there was trouble up in heaven
The Lord raised cane.
And he called in St. Pete and said,
those dogs are barking again.
And my communication to earth
also is bad again.
Now find me a Radio Man, dog man, too.
I want one thats good.
So old Pete promised the Lord that he would.

Now he looked for a day,
and he looked for a night.
But he couldn't find a dog man
that could quiet those dogs at night.

Then the Lord he did holler,
said "my radio is broke now, too.
You've gotta find me a radio man
to make things like new".
Then St. Pete said, "Lord, this situation is bad.
I've looked these souls over.
Not a radio man or dog man to be had".

Then the Lord said, "Pete, put in a call.
Go check the book and find the best of all."
Pete checked the book and found
William S. King, radio man who loves a hound.
Then the Lord said, "Butch, we need you bad.
And Butch smiled and said, I'll be right up."
As Butch climbed up those Golden Stairs
he could hear those dogs barking.
They needed him bad.

St. Pete said, "Butch, this harp is not for you."
And handed him a radio and a coon dog, or two.
Now there's peace once more in heaven.
Butch has put the dogs to rest.
The Lord took our radio man,
because he needed the best.

STS-90 LINKS TO OZZIE

From Ozzie N4SCY

Ozzie N4SCY received an e-mail recently from Kim Pawelczyk, a Payload Specialist on the upcoming STS-90 mission which will launch in April. "They've linked to one of my Web Pages", Ozzie reports. "When you click on 'Launch' from their home page, it discusses getting a launch pass, and then says you can find out other information at a linked FAQ (Frequently Asked Qestions) site. The site they take you to is my SpaceLaunch Viewing FAQ Page."

Ozzie, of course, responded by putting a message on his page welcoming those people who were coming from the crew's web site, with a link back to the ST-90 site. Those folks who didn't know about the crew's web site before, will see this link, and may go visit it. Ozzie is getting about 100 'hits' a week on his web site by people using various search engines and finding out about it that way. He's now corresponding by e-mail to an old high-school sweatheart who found the page while looking up "space stuff" for her then 8 year old son. The new STS-90 web site is hosted at Penn State University, and follows the new tradition started by the STS-89 crew of putting up their own information on the web without the need to consult NASA's Public Information Office.

Ozzie's page: http://digital.net/~OZZIE
SST-90's page: http://www.psu.edu/nasa

BULLETIN
$20.00 REWARD

Just jot down all the advantages of Ham Radio you can think of. Send or give to Bill Eppley, W2SDB (PR man for IRARC). Deadline March 5. Winner by random drawing. Entries to be used in promoting ham radio in our local schools.
QTH: Harmonica Bill, W2SDB, 434 Adams Ave., Cape Canaveral, 32920

LISATS

By I
Ernie Baldini K4EBD
From 1/98 IRARC Newsletter

The LISATS (Launch Information Service & Amateur Television System) group is urging IRARC members to use their ATV repeater, K4ATV. The repeater, located 3/4 of a mile north of the Clearlake Road-SR 520 intersection in Cocoa, radiates a 90 watt NTSC standard color television signal from a 10db vertical antenna on WLRQ's tower at 265 feet.

The group's members, most of whom are also IRARC members, have recently completed upgrades under the leadership of Bob Anderson, W4PRK. Excellent video and audio can be received on 421.25mhz. Any cable ready TV or VCR, capable of tuning CABLE channel 57 (not UHF broadcast TV channel 57), with a vertically polarized antenna connected to the cable input, and pointed toward Cocoa, should receive a good signal. Standard TV antennas ARE NOT SATISFACTORY because they tune the VHF and UHF TV broadcast frequencies and have a gap in the gain curve between 400 and 470mhz. An amateur 440mhz band antenna works well. K4ATV has the following services: ATV repeat (input 1), a bulletin board (input 4) where you can post amateur for-sale items, read reminders of meetings, and get info on using touch-tones on 144.23mhz to select inputs. On input 7 is a picture of the repeater. NASA Select TV can be found on input 8 and color test patterns on input 0. During weather alerts, K4RBD relays local NWS color radar date and other weather info using input 1. LISATS hold a net every Wednesday at 1945 hours on the K4GCC 146.94mhz repeater with video and audio from ATV transmitting stations seen and heard on the 431.25mhz repeater.

All amateurs are welcome. IRARC members interested in joining LISARS should contact the President, Bob Anderson, W4PRK, at 784-1874

PET HAM CARE AND FEEDING

From 1/98 IRARC Newsletter

Pet hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. Here is a short guide to the basics:

1. Living Area: A pet ham needs a private "nest area" - an entire room where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures, boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, etc. that it will bring home whenever it ventures out. You will want to encourage your pet ham to confine its activity to this room, to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter, and his boring holes in the walls.

2. Expenses: Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but unlike most pets, a pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

3. Feeding: A well trained pet ham will eat with the family occasionally but it usually will feel more comfortable and secure taking its meals in its room. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone, even if it does not beg or whine.

4. housekeeping: Most pet hams can be trained to use family toilet facilities, but a few require a toilet or portapotty in the nest.

5. Obedience Training: A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks - the easiest and most common being SIT and SPEAK. Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in its nest area.

6. Health Problems: The pet ham typically suffers from lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking. Health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

7. Travel: Your pet ham will gladly travel with the family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the nest room. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families and play together.

8. Breeding: If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its nest room collection.

Annoymous, reprinted from the August/September 1997 issue of White Noise, the November issue of the Independent Bohemian, and was submitted by W4WLR, Will Rogers.

TRACKING ON THE INTERNET

From 1/98 SKIP

I'm sure many readers make use of UPS, FEDX, DHL or Airborne Express and familiar with the tracking number that gets affixed to the bill. It usually looks like "1Z 322 52X 03 1204 792 8". The purpose of this number, of course, is to track the material. In the past, special software was required and tracking was relegated mostly to the muckety mucks in the respective companies. NOW, you can track your material on the internet.

>Recently, I had to overnight $1200 worth of negatives to a printer in Colorado. It was critical that the printer get the material ASAP to begin printing on deadline-sensitive material. I was already hyperventilating over the job and was considering having a massive editorial crackup the next morning when I called to verify delivery. The printer said, "they never arrived" and of course, the job would be delayed.

>With the tracking label staring me in the face, I immediately got on the internet and went to the UPS tracking site (the delivery service I happened to use) and pumped in my tracking number. I tracked the package from the mailing service, to the depot, to the airport, when it was placed on a plane, when it arrived in Colorado and when it was delivered to the printer. Not only did I have the time it was delivered to the printer, but I had

"which door" and the man's name who signed for it.
>The call to Colorado armed with my recently acquired intelligence could be likened to confronting an accused criminal with the irrefutable evidence. Miraculously, the package appeared - the second time the "arriving package" miracle has occurred in recent history.
>There are times when these tracking labels come in handy, if not to give one peace of mind, but when told the package is lost. It can also be used for recreational purposes. It's interesting to watch the progress of your package and rather impressive to say the least. These private shipping companies have figured out the definition of efficiency and that's what makes them so successful, not to mention reliable.
>It may be a good idea to keep these addresses handy in case of difficulties.

UnitedParcelService(UPS):
http://www.ups.com/tracking/tracking.html
Airborne Express:
http://airborne-express.com/trace/trace.html
Federal Express (FEDEX):
http://www.fedex.com/track_it.html
DHL: http://www.dhl.com/track/tr_ENG.html

ARIZONA QRMER TO PAY UP

From 2/98 QST

Hams in Arizona are cheering, now that a man fined by the FCC for malicious interference and other rules violations has finally agreed to pay up. In 1996, the FCC fined Timothy Harold Hoffman of Phoenix $6000 for repeated violations, including interference to Phoenix area repeaters. The violations were called to the Commission's attention by the Arizona Repeater Association's ARRL sanctioned Local Interference Committee. Hoffman was cited for five specific violations, including transmitting on ham frequencies without a valid operator or station authorization, and willfully and maliciously interfering with ham radio communications. But, as Lance Halle, KW7LH, tells it, "it took a multitude of long distance calls by committee members, support from FCC personnel, and input from Congress and the White House, to get a Notice of Forfeiture and then a federal court judgment" against Hoffman.
>"The system does work," Halle said in alerting the ARRL to the October 26 judgment by US District Court judge Robert C. Broomfield. Hoffman will pay off his fine in increments of $200 per month. "Spread the word! Maybe this will deter some of the would-be interferers."

THE MOUSE KEY

By Jeff M. Gold, AC4HF

Now that computer hardware is cropping up at almost every hamfest/fleamarket, you can get your hands on a used mouse for a pittance. With a two-button mouse you can craft a paddle key; a three-button mouse can become a combo straight/paddle key!*
>The first thing to do is remove the mouse ball on the bottom. Next, cut off the computer connector on the other end of the mouse cable. Now comes the somewhat tricky part - identifying which wire in the cable bundle connects to which mouse switch. Carefully remove only the outer insulation of the end of the mouse cable. Separate the individual wires and strip the insulation from the ends. Take apart the rest of the mouse. It's usually held together by a few Phillips head screws. Just locate the small microswitches directly under the mouse buttons. There will be one trace (or wire connection) common to all the microswitches. There will also be indivdual wires going to each switch. Note the color of the common wire and the colors of the wires going to the switches. Simply connect the appropriate cable wires to a plug that matches your keyer's jack. The common wire will go to the ground or common connection of the keyer, and one of each of the

(continued on page 7)

JANUARY MEETING

By Nancy KD4ITX

The meeting was called to order by Bud Hughes, K4CWG at 1910 hrs. before 50 members and guests. After the "Pledge", a moment of silence and the introductions, Bill W2SDB played Happy Birthday for January birthdays. A motion was made, seconded and carried to vote in new members.

>Election was held to replace Board Member silent key Butch King AF4FX. By a majority vote, Ken Denman, KD4HNW was elected to fill this position.

>Eric Herd, KF4BRL, VP of the UCF Radio Club, read a letter of appreciation to TARC for the clubs help with the January 10 tailgate at UCF. Eric announced the new vanity call for UCF is K4UCF.

>With great sadness Bud announced the loss of club members Butch King AF4FX and Theresa Shinn KF4RWK.

>Ralph Hall, AE4LE asked for volunteers for the air command at Executive Airport in March, to handle the communications. Any new member or someone who has upgraded that needs a new ARES badge should contact him.. He also discussed the interference on 2 meters. He asked that anyone who wanted to complain about the situation, please do so on the phone and not on the radio as they were trying to close in on this person to take care of the situation. He stated the club by-laws needed to be revised to acknowledge the club as a public service organization.

>Les Griner, K4SJC reported that the 91 machine was up and running again. Water got into the repeater cabinet. Plans are underway by the city to build a new building to house the repeater.

>Pike Abell, W4EPU announced that the speaker for tonight, Ken Windham, N4KXH, did not show up.

>Bud asked all club members with e-mail addresses to please include them when they sign the club sign-in sheet.

>Clyde, K4EOS, announced he had applications for anyone wishing to join or renew their membership with ARRL.

>Les, K4SJC asked the club about buying some equipment. He recommended sending the controller to Ft. Lauderdale to be replaced with a new model with the latest revisions at a cost of $179. We also need 2 sub-audible decoders at a cost of $52 each. One for the 97 machine and a spare. A motion carried to purchase the equipment.

>Bill, W2SDB announced he has a contest going with $20 to the winner. Write a paper about what amateur radio means to you and send to him. Papers will be read to area school kids.

>Bud asked if you have articles of interest, or a story to tell, that you give it to Becky or Clyde for the newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 2045 hrs.

(Continued from page 5) other wires will go to the dot or dash terminals. If you're working with a three-button mouse, you can connect the wire from one of the switches to a plug for your transceiver (you'd end up with two plugs on the end of the mouse cable - one for your paddle keyer and the other for a straight-key input).

>Using a mouse as a CW keyer takes some practice! You can help the situation considerably by buying a mouse that has the "feel" you desire. For example, some mouse switches require more finger pressure than others.

**I'm not the first to discover this alternative use for a mouse. See "Mobile Morse by Mousekey" by Terry L Wirth, K7ACN in "Hints & Kinks", in January 1996 QST and "Mr. MouseKey" by Bill Jones, KD7S, in "Up Front", July 1994 QST*

YOU MAY BE A RED NECK IF.....

>You think a chain saw is a musical instrument.

>You think that beef jerky and Moon Pies are two of the major food groups.

>You have more than two brothers named Bubba or Junior.

ABEL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike W4EPU

A TRIBUTE TO BUTCH (1949-1998)

Butch, you first touched us here at TARC when you visited one of our Field Day events a few years ago. You showed a great deal of interest and asked a lot of questions.

>The next thing we knew, you were preparing for your Amateur Radio operators's licenses. On April 9, 1996 you passed the exams, became a HAM radio operator and obtained your first call sign, KE4YQN. You immediately joined the Titusville Amateur Radio Club. Once a member, you pitched right in. You demonstrated from your actions that "pitch in" has nothing to do with litterbugs. It meant participating in all Club activities and doing everything you saw that needed to be done.

>In the meantime, Butch, you were not satisfied with just the basics. You wanted to be the best you could be. You went up through the ranks at a record pace. On October 10, 1997, just 18 months later, you obtained your Extra class license and became AF4FX..

>As if that was not enough, you were equally as active in the Indian River Coon Hunters Association (IRCHA). As in TARC, you did more than simply be a member of the club and do the fun things like chasing the hounds that chase the coons. You were a working member. You were Secretary of the IRCHA.

>From discussions with your coworkers at EG&G, it is obvious that you were just as enthusiastic at work as at play.

>You had a lot of friends, Butch, a lot of friends. For example, there must have been over 250 people at your wake. That's more people than I have ever seen at one of those. Also, there was a large crowd at the Service the next morning.

>We miss you, Butch. There will always be a space reserved for you in each of our hearts. 73s es 88s

FOR SALE

YAESU FT747 GX XCVR
PLUS ASTRON 20 AMP POWER SUPPLY
MINT CONDITION
RCVS 100KHZ - 30 MHZ
100 WATTS SSB & CW
TX 160-80-40-30-20-12-17-15 & 10 MTRS.
$500.00 COMPLETE
K4EOS, CYDE LEE
267-9375

REMINDER

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ARRL DUES THROUGH TARC. SEND YOUR NOTICE WITH WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO TARC. I WILL FORWARD TO ARRL. K4EOS, CLYDE K4EOS

TARC CLUB MEMBERS

ADVERTISE YOUR HAM RELATED "FOR SALE " OR "WANTED TO BUY" ITEMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER FREE OF COST. CALL K4EOS, CLYDE AT 267-9375

TREASURER'S REPORT
By Clyde Lee, K4EOS

Balance Forward From 1997	$5356.73
Deposits Year to Date	482.00
TOTAL INCOME	**5838.73**
Expenditures	178.51
BALANCE AS AT 01/31/98	**5660.22**
FEMA Escrow	2363.75
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$3296.47**

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 273 (204 regular, 63 family, 6 honorary)

NEW MEMBERS:
000000 DONALD PATEN KC4VRA
KC8CIX ROGER McCLELLAND
KU4LY KENNETH NADELL
W3UK WALLY NEWELL
KB2ZLH JUDY SMITH
KC4ZUF THOMAS RAC

RENEWALS:
KE4AGH VERN ANDREWS
W4AVP JACK SIEGEL
KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS
KA4LTK LLOYD MULLENS
KE4MXG CARL LUNEBAUGH
KE4MXHMARILYN LINEBAUGH
AB4P BILL MALLMAN
KD4RLT WILLIAM MERRILL
W4VQB BOB NEDIMEYER
N1WBU ARTHUR DeANGLES
WN4YKE DON HATFIELD
KE4JBF JOAN HATFIELD

HAMFESTS:

FEB.7/8	MIAMI
FEB. 7	PENSACOLA
FEB.14/15	ORLANDO
FEB.21/22	SARASOTA
FEB.21	BROOKVILLE
MAR. 1	ZEPHRYHILLS
MAR.7	ENGLEWOOD
APR.3	FANNING SPRINGS